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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/659,860	09/11/2000	Hong Zhang	RTS-0201	5702

7590 07/16/2003

Jane Massey Licata
Law Offices of Jane Massey Licata
66 East Main Street
Marlton, NJ 08053

EXAMINER

SCHULTZ, JAMES

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1635	11

DATE MAILED: 07/16/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Response to Amendment

The amendment filed on April 30, 2003 amending all pending claims drawn to the elected invention and adding new claims such that all of the instant claims are drawn to a non-elected invention is non-responsive (MPEP § 821.03). The remaining claims are not readable on the elected invention because the multiple regions now claimed by applicant are distinct and impose a search burden on the Office to search the entire scope of the claimed invention. In applicant's response dated November 5, 2002, applicant amended claim 1 to read only on the broad target of SEQ ID NO: 3. Said amendment was considered to be responsive to the restriction requirement mailed October 2, 2002, because only one sequence was recited in said claims. However, applicants instant amendment, directed to multiple and specific regions of SEQ ID NO: 3 referred to either by region or by nucleobase, effectively claims multiple and distinct targets, each requiring a different search, because a search for one region does not reveal art against another, and furthermore, a search for art against the whole target of the originally claimed target of SEQ ID NO: 3 does not result in a complete and exhaustive list of all art directed against all of applicants newly defined regions. Therefore, because the entirety of applicants' response is dependent on claims encompassing multiple distinct target regions, said response is not considered to be responsive.

Since the above-mentioned amendment appears to be a *bona fide* attempt to reply, applicant is given a TIME PERIOD of ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this notice within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a) ARE AVAILABLE.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John L. LeGuyader can be reached on 703-308-0447. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-3014 for regular communications and 703-305-3014 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0196.

James Douglas Schultz, PhD
July 10, 2003

Karen Lacourciere
KAREN LACOURCIERE
PATENT EXAMINER